



**How do I provide
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Facilities and Services Licensing Proposed Rules

Proposed Changes to Certificate of Need Definition of Established Bed Ratio for Nursing Homes

Facilities & Services Licensing (FSL) has been asked to initiate rulemaking to WAC 246-310-010 (9), Certificate of Need definition of established bed ratio. The current established ratio is forty beds per one thousand persons age sixty-five and older. The average age for all nursing home residents is 79.97 years. Changing the established ratio based on the population age seventy or older more accurately reflects the population served by nursing homes.

The Next Step - - Request for Data

Based on information received to date, the Department is requesting additional data supporting an appropriate ratio to determine nursing home bed need throughout Washington State. Please send your information to the Department no later than November 1, 2007.

Data received will be reviewed and analyzed prior to initiating the next steps in rulemaking. Information received will be posted to our website as it is available. You may see this at Certificate of Need - Proposed Rules - Washington State Dept. of Health.